

# *SAMPLE ASSESSMENT*

## **Example of Quality Arts Education Outcomes**

**ABC Elementary School  
XYZ School District**

## OVERVIEW

The baseline data attached shows two participating schools, both with similar socio-economic and ethnicity make up. ABC Elementary (yellow) is an **art works for kids** school and has an established (14 year), integrated, school-wide arts education program. The comparable (unnamed) school (blue) has not had an integrated arts program.

The data suggests that the school with a longer history of full arts integration into the curriculum and teaching is experiencing increased student performance. Further, student performance at the school without a history of school-wide arts integration and teaching is lower and inconsistent.

## ABC ELEMENTARY: ARTS EDUCATION IN ACTION

For 14 years, ABC Elementary has invested deeply in an integrated arts education program. Following are examples of what the program includes:

- Every child learns to play the violin.
- Children study music for two hours each week on average. Whole classrooms learn together.
- Classroom teachers come to music daily and learn to play the instruments with the children.
- All learning happens in class.
- The children perform with local artists.

## STANDARDIZE TEST OUTCOMES: U-PASS 2006

*The following information is based on actual 2006 numbers published by the Utah State Office of Education on the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students website. The two schools presented have similar demographic, economic and social characteristics.*

ABC Elementary	Whole School % Proficient
Language Arts	61%
Math	70%

Achieved state level of performance: **YES**

Met adequate yearly progress (AYP) for No Child Left Behind: **YES**

Comparable School	Whole School % Proficient
Language Arts	43%
Math	43%

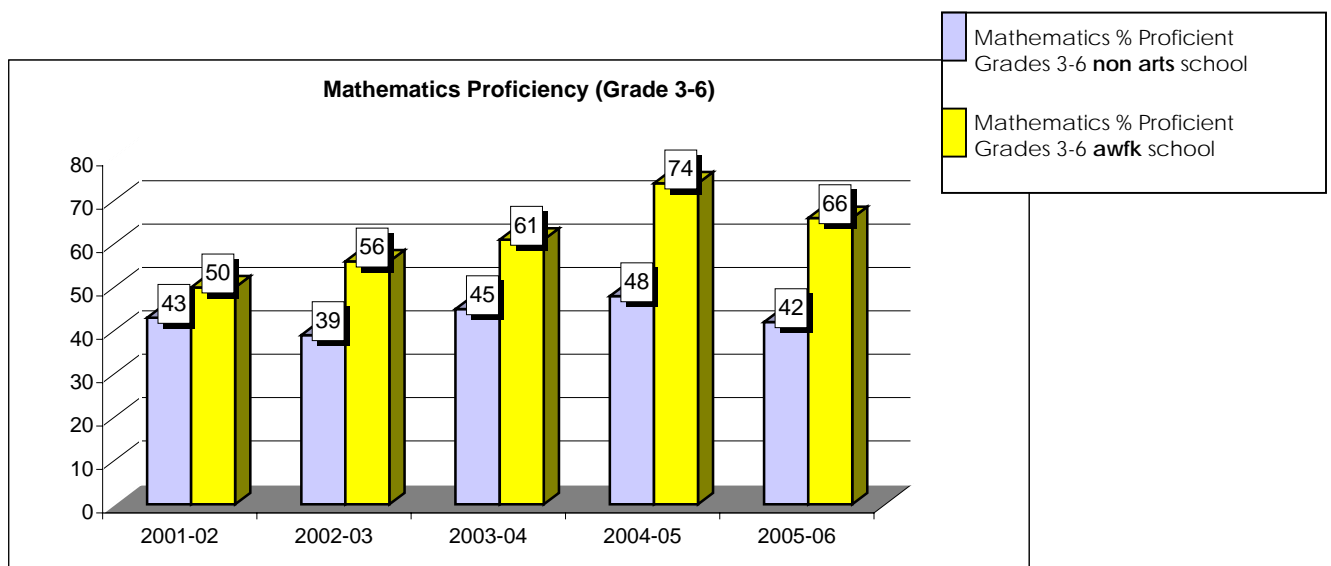
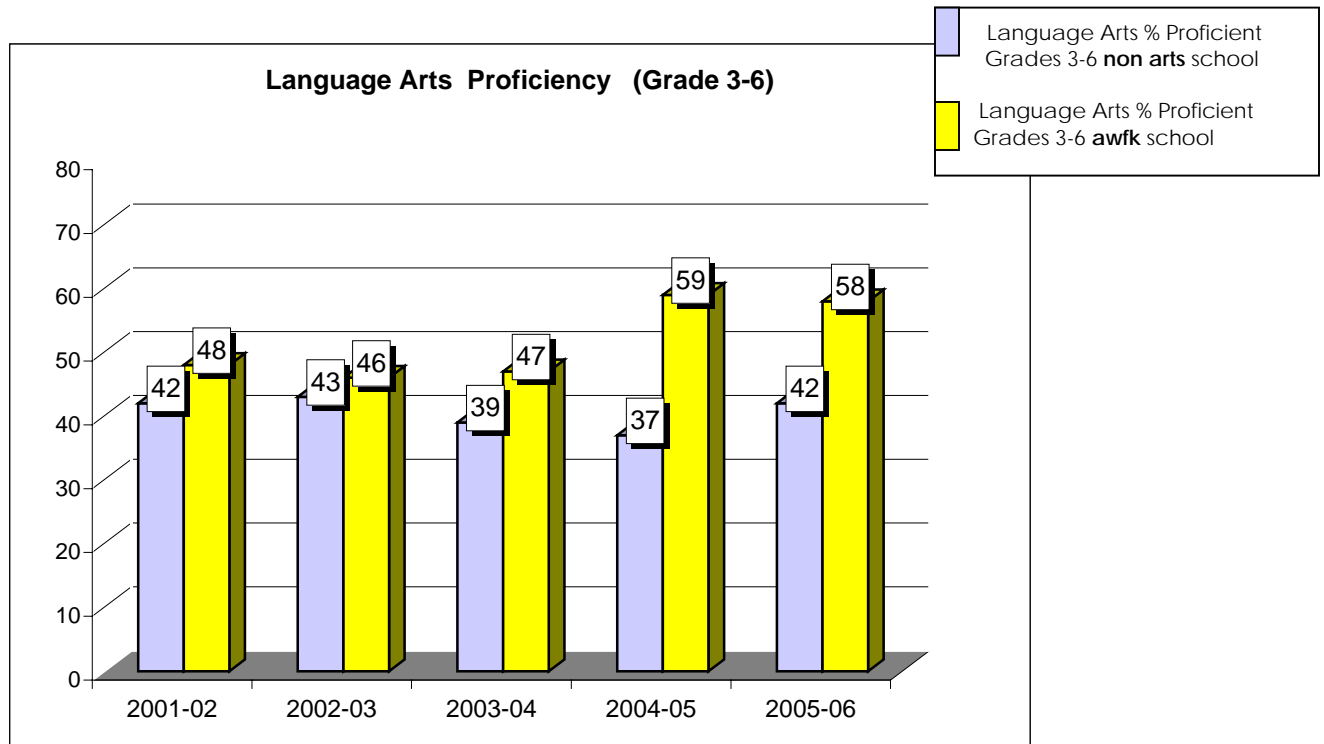
Achieved state level of performance: **NO**

Met adequate yearly progress (AYP) for No Child Left Behind: **NO**

**Note:** "Proficient" is defined by the Utah State Office of Education annually and by grade level based on student performance on yearly Criterion Reference Testing (CRT). CRTs are changed yearly and weighted differently depending on annual test rigor, as determined by outside evaluators. Scores of 50% are proficient.

## ACADEMIC PROGRESS OVER TIME

The following charts illustrate what appears to be a relationship between an integrated music program and student CRT performance between an **art works for kids** school, ABC Elementary, and a non **art works for kids** school. Although ABC Elementary begins music training in pre-kindergarten, CRT tracking does not begin until the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.



## OTHER OUTCOMES

In addition to academic improvement, ABC Elementary also continues to experience other positive outcomes that can be linked to the arts education program, including:

- Less gang activity and graffiti.
- Increased positive citizenship and reduced suspensions.
- Reduced crime in the neighborhood.
- 98% of parents participate in conferences.
- School attendance is approximate 95%.

## EFFECTS ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Following are quotes by those impacted most by ABC Elementary Schools strong commitment to arts education—the students and their families.

*Comments from students following a violin performance at Symphony Hall.*

*Performances are regular components of the school's music program, which also includes rigorous classroom work.*

- "I feel so happy when I play the violin everyday because it makes me feel smart." – Loan
- "I started to sweat... I made a few mistakes, but at least I played and tried my best. I was really excited. I love playing the violin. I am very, very happy of course. I was proud of myself. That was the happiest day of my life." –Xotchilt
- "Music means a lot to me. Music helps kids feel good about themselves." –Deven
- "Music is hard and disciplines me. I like hard things and this is hard." –Sebastian
- "Taking care of violins is fun because when you take care of your sister or something like a pet it is like taking care of an instrument." –Akimel

*Comments from parents.*

- "My daughter absolutely loves the program and is learning to read better because of the music."
- "I will fight for our music program and do everything I can to help it grow."
- "Because of this program, my daughter plans to be a music teacher when she grows up. She loves it!"